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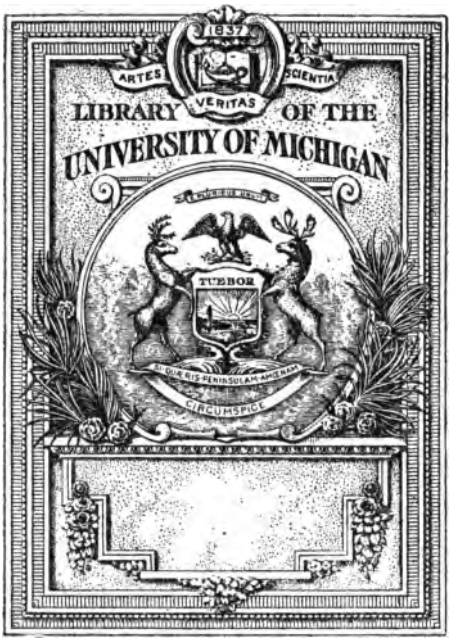
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THE

MEMORIAL

OF

M. *Beſtuchef* His Czariſh Majeſties Reſident in *London.*

Preſented *Oct.* 17. 1720.

TO THE

Court of GREAT BRITAIN,

BEING

A REPLY to the two ANSWERS given by the BRITISH and BRUNSWICK Miniſters to a Former MEMORIAL. Preſented by the Reſident WESSELOFSKI.

Printed in the YEAR, 1721.

THE *Muſcovite* Reſident's MEMORIAL Preſented to K. *G. Oct.* 17. 1720.

THE Second Anſwer given by your Majeſties Directions to the Memorial, which his Czariſh Majeſties Reſident *Weſſelofski* had the Honour to Preſent to your Majeſty, *Dec.* 25. 1719. by the Czar my Auguſt Maſter's Order were very ſurprizing to him, and contrary to his Expectation; for inſtead of finding by them, that the Repreſentations (which the confidence and friendſhp as well as tyes of Alliance, and Treaties ſubſiſting between their Majeſties, permitted him to make) had been well taken, they have not only been miſinterpreted by your Majeſties Miniſters; but moreover, to juſtify all the Steps they have taken againſt his Czariſh Majeſties Intereſt upon all Occaſions, and which his Czariſh Majeſty never deſerved, they have, without being afraid of claſhing with Truth and Juſtice, invented things intirely contrary to his Czariſh Majeſties Honour, and which, far from being put in Execution, never ſo much as came into his Thoughts.

If any Perſon were to judge of the Reproaches, and Imputations contained in thoſe Anſwers, only by the nature of 'em, it would not appear neceſſary to make any Anſwer to refute 'em, ſince all diſintereſted Perſons may eaſily perceive the falſity, and little foundation of 'em, and ſee that they are only forg'd out

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of a ſpirit of hatred to his Czariſh Majeſty, who is perſuaded that they will find no Credit among Men of Honour, and that they'll not be able to make any Impreſſion upon equitable Minds.

However ſince they have been printed in ſeveral Languages, publiſh'd and ſold every where, with Reflections highly Indecent, Injurious, and deſerving Correction; and ſince thoſe that cannot be exactly informed of all the Circumſtances of Affairs, may Interpret his Czariſh Majeſties Contempt of 'em, and ſilence to his Prejudice, if they were left without a Reply: In regard to his Honour which is engaged, he has thought fit to order the Underwritten, his Miniſter to lay before your Majeſty, what is proper to refute ſuch ill-grounded Reproaches as his Czariſh Majeſty has no ways deſerved, and to prove the Juſtice of his Conduct, and to repreſent both to your Majeſty with all the Reſpect that is requiſite.

'Twould be needleſs to call to mind the great Conſideration his Czariſh Majeſty, has had for your Majeſties ſacred Perſon, and the Value he has always put upon your Friendſhip, as well before as after your Acceſſion to the Crown of *Great Britain*: The many marks he has given of his regard to your Majeſty, and the Conduct he has conſtantly obſerved towards You, Sire, are clear and undoubted proofs thereof.

In the Year 1709. long before your Majeſty was advanced to the Throne, his Czariſh Majeſty ſent to you Prince *Kourakin*, to aſſure you of his particular Conſideration and Eſteem, and to Eſtabliſh with you a firm Friendſhip and good Correſpondence, the Foundations whereof were happily laid the Year following, 1710. by a formal Treaty between the two Courts.

It cannot be deny'd, That theſe beginnings towards which his Czariſh Majeſty had made the firſt

Advance

Advance, and this Treaty of 1710. were the Occaſion of that good Underſtanding which laſted ſo happily for ſeveral Years afterwards, and were the firſt Occaſion of all thoſe great and Conſiderable Advantages, which the moſt Illuſtrious Electoral Houſe of *Brunſwick Luxenburg* has drawn from thence.

When his Czariſh Majeſty was deſerted the firſt time by his Allies, in the War he has with *Sweden*, the late King of *Sweden* improving the good fortune which favoured him, made an Irruption into *Saxony*, and rendered himſelf ſo Formidable with the Army he form'd there with the Money of *Poland* and *Saxony*, that far from any bodies daring to oppoſe him, or even make him the leaſt Remonſtrance upon the Ruine of ſo conſiderable a Member of the Empire, they yielded with a ſort of Submiſſion to the Laws he was pleaſed to preſcribe, only for fear of provoking that haughty Prince any farther: But when the Almighty had bleſſed his Czariſh Majeſties Arms in ſuch a manner, that all the great Projects of that force were broken, and his daring Undertakings Defeated at *Pultawa*; every one endeavour'd to Profit by the Misfortune of *Sweden*, and appropriate to himſelf the Poſſeſſions of that Crown, according as they thought 'em moſt convenient for their Dominions.

His Czariſh Majeſties Friendſhip and Alliance were abſolutely neceſſary to obtain theſe ends; ſeveral courted it, and as the King of *Sweden*, notwithſtanding the ill State of his Affairs, was obſtinate in rejecting the Pacifick, Moderate, and very reaſonable Propoſals made him by his Czariſh Majeſty, no body can blame his Czariſh Majeſty, that he at laſt accepted thoſe Offers which were made him on the part of ſeveral Powers, to enter into Treaties and Alliances with them againſt *Sweden*.

'Twas

'Twas this Conſideration among others, which occaſioned likewiſe a Treaty between his Czariſh Majeſty, and your Majeſty in the Year 1715.

The fidelity wherewith his Czariſh Majeſty has kept the Engagements, enter'd into on his part in this Treaty, and all the Conditions Stipulated therein, is ſo clearly explained in the above mentioned Memorial of 1719, that even your Majeſtjes Miniſters had no Objection to make to it, in the Anſwer of the *German* Chancery; only they pretended that his Czariſh Majeſty had broke that Treaty, by bringing his Troops into the Empire: A pretence ſo often alledg'd, and with ſo little ground, and which has been ſo often refuted, with ſolidity on the part of his Czariſh Majeſty, that it was needleſs to ſay any more of it.

All the world knows how unable they were to drive the *Sweeds* out of the Empire, without the powerful Succours which his Czariſh Majeſty furniſh'd his Allies with. The *Sweeds* had their hands free to carry the Fire of War into the heart of the Empire, which might have enflamed your Majeſties Dominions in *Germany*. Very difficult would it have been to extinguiſh that Flame, and thoſe troubles we may judge, would have been an inſuperable obſtacle to the Acquiſition, your Majeſty made afterwards with ſo much eaſe, of two Provinces ſo Conſiderable as *Bremen* and *Verden* are.

The great ſervices that his Czariſh Majeſty did his high Allies, and the whole Empire by ſo powerful an Aſſiſtance, for driving the *Sweed* thence, are publickly known; and his Majeſty did it with ſuch diſintereſtedneſs, that it cannot be imagined upon what grounds it is given out in the Anſwer, that he endeavoured to acquire to himſelf ſome Province in the Empire: ſince when he had with his own Army taken the Town of *Stetin*, his Czariſh Majeſty gave it up immediately to the King of *Pruſſia*.

'Tis

'Tis inconceivable how your Majeſties Miniſters can pretend, that the bringing his Czariſh Majeſties Troops into the Empire, was a Contravention to the Treaties in force between him and your Majeſty, ſince he brought them into *Germany*, only to acquit himſelf of the Engagements, he was obliged to by thoſe very Treaties, in favour of your Majeſty, and to act as matters were concerted with the reſt of the Allies.

Nay, it was *your Majeſty, your ſelf that Sollicited his Czariſh Majeſty, earneſtly to ſend thoſe Troops into* Germany, and *even offered to maintain a third part of 'em at your own Expence.* Your Majeſties *German* Miniſters cannot have forgot all theſe things.

Nor can they have forgot that his Czariſh Majeſty did not reſolve to commence Hoſtilities in the Empire; but *upon the Intreaties and ſtrong Sollicitations of his Allies:* His Majeſty foreſaw very well, that the King of *Sweden* following his irreconcilable humour, would never agree to ſuch a General Peace, as would ſuit all the Allies, till he was attack'd in the heart of his Kingdom: For which end his Czariſh Majeſty offered his Allies to invade *Sweden*, on the ſide of *Finland*, with his Troops alone, provided that your Majeſty and the King of *Denmark*, would engage to cover that Invaſion with their Fleet, that of his Czariſh Majeſty not being ſufficient for that Deſign. Their Majeſties would never come into it; but propoſed in ſtead of that Enterprize, to make a Deſcent in *Schonen*, on the ſide of *Denmark*, in which they deſired his Czariſh Majeſties Concurrence with a good number of Troops. His Majeſty foreſaw well that this Aſſiſtance would coſt him dear, becauſe the Enterprize would meet with many difficulties, and be Subject to great Dangers; however his Majeſty conſented thereto, to gratify his Allies, and to conform himſelf to their Deſires.

Your Majeſty engaged your ſelf to contribute towards this Expedition with your Fleet to cover the

Deſcent,

Deſcent, and his Majeſty the King of *Denmark* promiſed on his part to furniſh ſubſiſtence for part of his Czariſh Majeſties Troops, whilſt his Czariſh Majeſty was obliged to engage for maintaining the greateſt part of 'em at his own Expence. For this end his Czariſh Majeſty was by theſe Engagements obliged to take care of Erecting the neceſſary magazines for his Troops, the great diſtance of his Dominions, and many other difficulties not permitting him to ſend for Proviſions from *Ruſſia*, he had therefore ſeveral Contracts made with Undertakers to furniſh 'em with Bread.

Your Majeſty far from ſhewing any diſlike, or having any jealouſy of thoſe Magazines erected in the Empire (as is now pretended in the ſaid Anſwer) facilitated it as much as poſſible, even giving at his Czariſh Majeſties deſire leave to buy up the neceſſary Corn in your *German* Dominions, and let it be carried out without the payment of any duty, being deſirous thereby to favour the Execution of ſo good a deſign, which tended to the general Advantage of the whole Alliance.

During all this time your Majeſty made no manner of complaint to his Czariſh Majeſty, on Account of the *Ruſſian* Troops ſtay in *Mecklenburg*; that was made a matter of complaint only ſince the projected Deſcent upon *Schonen failed*: tho' his Czariſh Majeſty perceived, (as cannot be denied) that even before that event, and eſpecially after his Czariſh Majeſties contracting a Family Alliance with his Highneſs the Duke of *Mecklenburg*, your Majeſties *German* Miniſters, began to traverſe in every thing the Common good, and to oppoſe the Intereſt of his Czariſh Majeſty in all Courts.

The real Subject or pretext for the Animoſity againſt the Duke of *Mecklenburg* is known to all the world; But not to make our ſelves judge of that Affair, we refer our ſelves to the Deciſion of others,

as

as we do likewiſe whether it were juſt to prefer, before the common good and Intereſt of the whole Northern Alliance, the pleaſure of gratifying ones private paſſions in a conjuncture ſo nice, and of ſo great Conſequence.

It has in the Memorial of his Czariſh Majeſties Reſident been related at large, in what manner your Majeſties Miniſters began to act ſo openly againſt his Czariſh Majeſties Intereſts, and to ſuch a degree, that a declared Enemy could not have acted worſe: All this was done out of hatred to the Duke of *Mecklenburg*, and the Alliance that Prince had made with the moſt Auguſt Family of the *Czar*.

Had his Majeſty intermeddled in the Affairs of *Mecklenburg*, and made uſe of force againſt the Intereſt of the Nobility, he would have been leſs ſenſible of the unjuſt conduct of your Majeſties Miniſters: But it is well known, that he never concern'd himſelf in thoſe Affairs, otherwiſe than by his good, and friendly offices at the Imperial Court, and even with your Majeſty, which could not be taken ill: On the contrary there had been Reaſon to blame his Czariſh Majeſty, if he had not intereſted himſelf at leaſt by his good Offices, for a Prince that was oppreſſed, and his near Relation.

Beſides, the many Declarations in writing, and by word of mouth, and Aſſurances given by his Czariſh Majeſty, that he had no deſign to meddle at all in the Affairs of the Empire, might have made the Nobility of *Mecklenburg*, and all that took their part eaſy: time alſo, and Experience have effectually ſhewn how ill founded all thoſe injurious and offenſive inſinuations were, that were every were ſpread of his Czariſh Majeſties deſigns.

'Tis certain therefore that his Czariſh Majeſty, in bringing his Troops into the Empire, did nothing; but what he was obliged to do *in conſequence of the*

Treaties concluded with his Allies, and of what your Majeſty your ſelf deſired and required of him.

And to ſhew more evidently the little Solidity of all the other Reproaches contained in the Anſwer of the *German* Miniſtry, 'tis neceſſary to call to mind that his Czariſh Majeſties Troops return'd from *Copenhagen* towards the latter end of *October*, when the Seaſon of the Year was ſo far advanced, and Subject to ſo many difficulties and inconveniences, that it was the utmoſt Cruelty to inſiſt, that having come ſo far to the Succour of the Allies, and Suffered ſo much under *Copenhagen* at the inſtigation of ſome perſons, and undergone ſo many fatigues during their Tranſportation, they ſhould immediately begin their March to return into their own Country, from which they were ſo very remote, without giving 'em time to breath and refreſh themſelves. It had been more tolerable to have deliver'd 'em up into the Hands of the Enemy, than have expoſed 'em to ſuch miſery in ſo long and toilſome a March.

Hereto muſt be added, that his Majeſty was then actually in Negotiation with his Majeſty the King of *Denmark*, and concerting new meaſures for continuing the War againſt *Sweden*; Purſuant to which project he was to leave that Prince a conſiderable body of thoſe Troops. His Majeſty therefore could do no leſs than wait the iſſue of this Negotiation, and 'tis certain it would have been brought to a good iſſue for the common good of the whole Northern Alliance, if your Majeſties Miniſters at the Court of *Copenhagen* had not uſed all kind of means to diſſuade his *Daniſh* Majeſty from it.

In the mean time his Czariſh Majeſty did his utmoſt with your Majeſty, to reſtore a good underſtanding between the two Courts, to remove all obſtacles that could hinder it, and to agree in proper meaſures to obtain a General, laſting and honourable Peace.

'Tis

'Tis alledg'd in the Anſwer given by the *German* Miniſtery, that his Czariſh Majeſty had refuſed to fix a time for withdrawing his Troops out of the Country of *Mecklenburg*; But the Declarations and Projects which his Czariſh Majeſties Miniſters communicated at the latter end of the Year 1716, and in the beginning of the Year 1717, and which doubtleſs are ſtill to be found in the *German* Office, ſhew quite the Contrary: for by theſe projects his Czariſh Majeſty offered to oblige himſelf to withdraw his Troops from *Mecklenburg* Fifteen Days after the concluſion of the Agreement, which was to be made with your Majeſty, purely to remove that pretended Obſtacle.

But all that his Czariſh Majeſty could propoſe, all his Advances, all his ſteps and good Intentions were fruitleſs, and whatever complaiſance he ſhewed there was not the leaſt notice taken of it. Your Majeſties Miniſters perſiſted in their Animoſity againſt his Czariſh Majeſty, and they gave from time to time proofs that it was continually increaſing.

From the Year 1715, before the Treaty above mentioned was concluded between his Czariſh Majeſty, and your Majeſty, the Czar my moſt Auguſt Maſter had received ſome Advices informing him; that *your Majeſties Miniſters deſigns were only to ſecure* Bremen *and* Verden, and *after having made ſure of them to take no further trouble about the Intereſt of the reſt of the Northern Allies*, and that for the more eaſy obtaining from *Sweden* the Ceſſion of thoſe two Provinces, that Miniſtry was determined to promiſe to that Crown, that your Majeſty ſhould abandon his Czariſh Majeſty, and even give Succours to the King of *Sweden* againſt him.

Tho' the Confidence his Czariſh Majeſty put in your Majeſties greatneſs of Soul, and the many ſolemn Engagements, Aſſurances and Promiſes made by your Majeſty, both by word of Mouth and in

writing, would not permit his Czariſh Majeſty to give Credit to thoſe Advices, nor to ſeveral others which he received from different places, of a *Myſterious* Negotiation, and of ſome ſecret Emiſſaries ſent to *Sweden* for Treating of a *Separate Peace* between your Majeſty and the Crown of *Sweden*: Yet if one reflect ſeriouſly how your Majeſty has treated his Czariſh Majeſty ſince, and conſider that your Majeſty would never ſincerely contribute towards any thing of the Intereſt of the Common cauſe, and that on the Contrary, all opportunities of miſunderſtanding and Subjects of Quarrel were continually ſought for, and when no Juſt ones were to be found, recourſe was had to *Injuſtice*, to *frivolous pretences* invented at pleaſure; if one conſider all this, it appears that thoſe Advices which his Czariſh Majeſty received, were not entirely deſtitute of ſome grounds.

'Tis pretended in the Anſwer of the *German* Chancery, that the Interview with Baron *Gortz*, and ſeveral other ſteps charg'd on his Czariſh Majeſty as ſuſpicious,(which however are not ſpecify'd nor poſſible to be proved) had made his Britannick Majeſty take the Reſolution of ſending the Councellor *Schrader* to *Sweden*: Had his Commiſſion been only to diſcover, whether it was true that a private Peace between *Ruſſia* and *Sweden*, was on the point of Concluſion, it had been perfectly unneceſſary to ſend him thither, ſince that pretended Separate Peace was ſo far from being near its Concluſion, that a Congreſs had not ſo much as been opened nor mention made on either ſide of any Peace at all.

The Councellor *Schrader* was not the firſt Perſon intruſted with a Commiſſion in *Sweden* from your Majeſty: A Negotiation had been begun a great while before for a Separate Peace; it had been carry'd on by a Correſpondence with ſome *Swediſh* Miniſters, and by the *French* Embaſſador the Court *de la Mark*, who was then in *Sweden*. I paſs over in

ſilence

ſilence the propoſals made ſeveral times to Baron *Gortz* before his Confinement, and the Voyages which Lieutenant-General *Rank* was ordered to make into *Sweden*, with Propoſals for a Separate Peace, were too Publick to be concealed.

As to the Interviews with Baron *Gortz*, and the Congreſs of *Aland*, thoſe two points have been ſufficiently cleared in the Memorial, which my Predeceſſor had the honour to preſent to your Majeſty. There was no Interview at all between his Czariſh Majeſty and him: he came to *Loo*, whilſt his Czariſh Majeſty was there, but he ſpoke only to Prince *Kourakin* his Embaſſador, whom he deſired to procure him his Czariſh Majeſties leave to paſs through his Dominions, in order to return into *Sweden*.

'Tis on that Occaſion he was given to underſtand, that the if King of *Sweden* made any reaſonable Propoſals for a Peace, his Czariſh Majeſty and his Allies were ready to enter into a Negotiation.

The Kings of *Poland* and *Pruſſia*, (ſeeing themſelves, as well as his Czariſh Majeſty deprived of all manner of knowledge, of any thing about the Tranſactions towards a Separate Peace, between your Majeſty and the Crown of *Sweden*,) acted in Concert with his Majeſty on this Occaſion, and they are perfectly aſſured that nothing more paſs'd with Baron *Gortz* than has been mentioned.

The Reſident *Webber*, cannot deny that his Czariſh Majeſties Miniſters acquainted him with this Interview, when he ſpoke to 'em about it; It was not an Affair that required to be made a myſtery of to them, but it is true, when he reproached the *Ruſſian* Miniſters that there was a Treaty on Foot for a Separate Peace with his Czariſh Majeſty, by the means of Baron *Gortz*, they deny'd it, for how could they own a thing that never was?

'Tis alledg'd in the *German* Miniſtry's Anſwer, that the Privy-Councellor of his Czariſh Majeſties

Chancery

Chancery *Oſterman*, denyed all this with an Oath to the Reſident *Webber*. Such an Oath, if made, was improper and even ridiculous upon this Occaſion; but it is certain, that this Miniſter of his Czariſh Majeſty always aſſured the Reſident *Webber*, in the ſtrongeſt manner, that there was no Negotiation on Foot, for a Separate Peace with *Sweden*.

His Czariſh Majeſty removed to *Moſcow* with his whole Court in *A. D.* 1717; Before his departure he acquainted all the Foreign Miniſters Reſident with him, and even the Reſident *Webber*, that his Majeſty gave 'em leave to follow him, if they pleaſed.

After his departure his Majeſty received Intelligence from *Sweden*, that the late King was ſincerely inclined to Peace, and deſired that Miniſters might meet upon the Frontiers, in order to ſhorten the matter, and explain the ſeveral conditions which each party had thoughts of inſiſting on. His Czariſh Majeſty hereupon reſolved to ſend Orders to his General of the Artillery *Bruce*, and to the Privy-Councellor of his Chancery *Oſterman*, to repair to *Finland*, to hear the Propoſals of *Sweden*, and (far from making any myſtery of it) immediate notice was given thereof to all the Foreign Miniſters then at his Majeſties Court. The Reſident *Webber* had not been excluded, if he had followed him as the reſt of the Miniſters did, inſtead of ſtaying at *Petersburg*; but he was no ſooner arrived at *Moſcow*, than every thing was ſincerely communicated to him, as had been done to the reſt of the Foreign Miniſters before his Arival.

Since that time his Czariſh Majeſty has inſiſted ſtrongly with your Majeſty, to induce you to leave off your private Negotiations with *Sweden*, and ſend your Miniſters to the Congreſs of *Aland*. He even offered ſeveral times to break off that Congreſs, if your Majeſty would eſtabliſh a good underſtanding, and concert proper Meaſures with him for carrying

rying on the War, till ſuch time as the General Peace could be made; but there never appeared on your Majeſties part the leaſt inclination towards it.

All theſe Particulars are Inconteſtable, and ſince your Majeſties own Miniſters cannot deny 'em, it is the more ſurpriſing that they have not been aſhamed to aſſert the contrary in their Anſwers.

'Tis ſtill leſs to the purpoſe to alledge maliciouſly, that there were found among Baron *Gortz*'s Papers, ſome Projects of uniting the *Ruſſian* and *Swediſh* Forces, in order to fall upon your Majeſties Dominions in *Germany*.

Baron *Gortz*, as an Enemies Miniſter, was at liberty to form what Projects he thought fit; and ſuppoſing ſome ſuch had been found with him, yet no body can ſee on what grounds it can be imputed to his Czariſh Majeſty, that Baron *Gortz* had formed any Project to your Majeſties Prejudice. If your Miniſters pretend that theſe Projects ſerve in ſome meaſure for their Juſtification, they ought to prove, that his Czariſh Majeſty had come into 'em, or that ſome of them which were found, were Written by the hands of his Miniſters: And ſince no ſuch proof either has or can be made, we refer our ſelves to the Judgment of the Publick to ſay, *with what deſign could they publiſh ſuch notorious Falſhoods?*

His Czariſh Majeſty does not ſcruple to ſay, that if he would have enter'd into any Meaſures Prejudicial to your Majeſties Intereſts, he might have made his Peace with *Sweden* long ago: and even from the beginning of the Congreſs of *Aland*, his Czariſh Majeſties Miniſters had in that Congreſs communicated to them on the part of *Sweden*, the Propoſals made for a Separate Peace between your Majeſty and *Sweden*, according to which Propoſals your Majeſty offered in Conſideration, of the Ceſſion of *Bremen* and *Verden*, to make an Offenſive and Defenſive Alliance with *Sweden* againſt his Czariſh Majeſty.

We

We will not now take notice, of ſeveral other Promiſes made in theſe Propoſals, to the Prejudice of the reſt of the Northern Allies: But ſurely! All this might have Authoriz'd his Czariſh Majeſty to have return'd like for like; however he rather choſe to Sacrifice all the Advantages he might have drawn from the Propoſals made him, than to deſert his Allies, in breach of thoſe Treaties which had link'd them together.

He might likewiſe have made a very Advantagious Peace, ſince the King of *Sweden*'s death, would have reſolved to ſeparate himſelf from them; but as he could not entertain Sentiments of that kind, he rather endeavoured conſtantly to reſtore his firſt Confidence with your Majeſty, and take proper meaſures to obtain a General Peace.

And ſince all that he has done hitherto with this View, has been of no effect, he was at laſt obliged to have recourſe again to Hoſtilities.

The Expedition which his Czariſh Majeſties Troops made into *Sweden*, does not certainly deſerve thoſe odious Names, they affect to give it in the Anſwer of the *German* Chancery. Thoſe Troops did nothing there Inconſiſtent with the Laws of War, and did much leſs Miſchief there, than the *Swedes* had done before in his Czariſh Majeſties Dominions, and even in the Empire, with an unheard of Cruelty.

The Conditions of Peace which his Czariſh Majeſty inſiſts on from *Sweden*, have been for a long while well known to your Majeſty; and it is Inconceivable how they can *now appear ſo Exorbitant to you, after you have engaged your ſelf by a Solemn Treaty, to Guarantee moſt of 'em to his Czariſh Majeſty.* And as for the reſt, you have, promiſed not only as Elector of *Brunſwick Lunenburg*, but likewiſe as King of *Great Britain*, to ſupport 'em as much as poſſible: As appears

pears by the 4*th* Article of the Treaty of *Grypſwalde*, *October* 17. 1715 *.

The Reproaches contained in the Anſwer of the *Engliſh* Miniſtry, are not better grounded than the foregoing.

His Czariſh Majeſty allows, that there has not been hitherto any formal Engagements between *Ruſſia* and *Great Britain:* But the Britiſh Miniſters on their ſide are oblig'd to own, that there has been for ſeveral Ages paſt, a very good and ſincere Underſtanding between the two Crowns. There was no occaſion for formal Engagements to preſerve it, ſince natural Intereſt which is the ſtrongeſt tye, ſufficiently engages the two Crowns to maintain it, and ſince the Subjects of *Great Britain*, reap ſo conſiderable Advantages from the Commerce with *Ruſſia*, *no King of* England *would ever break off the good Correſpondence with that Crown, for fear of depriving his Subjects of the great Advantages, which from thence accrue to them.*

His Czariſh Majeſties Predeceſſors of Glorious Memory, have for their part always taken a particular care to maintain a Friendſhip, and good Harmony with the Crown of *Great Britain:* and his

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* *The* 4th *Article of the Treaty, concluded at* Grypſwald *between his Czariſh Majeſty, and the King of* Great Britain, *Says*
" The High Allies have agreed and engage themſelves re-
" ciprocally, to do all that lies in their power, to oblige *Swe-*
" *den* (at the Peace which is to be made with that Crown) to
" yield to his Czariſh Majeſty for ever, all *Ingria* and *Carelia*,
" with their Dependencies, as Provinces belonging Antiently
" to the Crown of *Ruſſia*, and the Province of *Eſthonia*, with
" the Town of *Revel*, and all their Dependencies, to indem-
" nify him for the loſſes ſuffered from *Sweden*, as well formerly
" as of late; and that the ſame Crown yield for ever, to his
" Britannique Majeſty as Elector of *Brunſwick Lunenburg*,
" the Duchies of *Bremen*, and *Verden*, with their Dependen-
" cies. The Contents of theſe Articles ſhall remain in force;
" but without Prejudice to any further pretenſions, that ſhall
" or may be made by the High Allies at the future Peace
" with the Crown of *Sweden*.

Czariſh Majeſty has not only followed faithfully all their ſteps in that reſpect; but has even been deſirous to increaſe that Friendſhip, and give greater Encouragement to the Trade of *Great Britain.*

'Twould be ſuperfluous to take notice, here of all the ſteps his Czariſh Majeſty has taken towards that end; they have been repreſented ſeveral times on other Occaſions; Beſides, your Majeſties Miniſters muſt yet retain 'em freſh in their Memory, and it is certain, that his Czariſh Majeſty has not miſs'd of laying hold, on every opportunity of giving any proofs of his good Intentions, as well towards your Majeſty as towards the Crown of *Great Britain*, without any Effect on their part ſhewing that they were ſenſible of it.

Your Majeſty immediately after your Acceſſion to the Crown, propoſed to his Czariſh Majeſty, a Treaty of Guarantee, of the Succeſſion to the Crown of *Great Britain*, in the Proteſtant Line, towards which his Czariſh Majeſty ſhewed all the favourable diſpoſition that could be deſired.

This Treaty of Guarantee, and of a Defenſive Alliance, being propoſed by your Majeſty, your ſelf, it is not to be imagined, that it could be contrary to the Intereſt of *Great Britain*, ſince if it had, your Majeſty would not have made the firſt ſtep towards it.

It was likewiſe only to conform himſelf to your Majeſties deſire, and to comply with your earneſt intreaty, that his Czariſh Majeſty ſent Prince *Kourakin*, his Embaſſador into *England*, to put the laſt hand to that Affair.

The Crown of Great Britain *is Guarantee, of the Treaty of Weſtphalia*; the Proteſtant Religion was eſtabliſhed by that Treaty, and *Bremen* and *Verden*, with other Provinces were confirm'd to *Sweden* by that Treaty; It cannot be denied, that it was only on Account of the Dominions which the Crown of *Sweden* poſſeſs'd in *Germany*, that it became the chief

ſupport

ſupport and Defence of the Proteſtant Religion: Yet that Crown is now ſtripp'd of almoſt all that it enjoy'd in *Germany*, *directly contrary to the Treaty of* Weſtphalia, *and the Guarantee* Great Britain *has given of it*; and *conſequently the Proteſtant Religion loſes a very great and firm ſupport by the Separate Peace between your Majeſty and* Sweden.

How can the Miniſters of *Great Britain* reconcile this with (what they aſſert, and make ſuch a noiſe about) their Zeal for Religion? 'Tis indeed beyond the Comprehenſion of his Czariſh Majeſty, or of any other Diſintereſted perſon; and yet it is even more inconceivable, wherein they make that Ballance of power in *Europe* conſiſt, of which they boaſt ſo much in their Anſwer.

The Crown of *Great Britain*, has likewiſe engaged it ſelf to Guarantee the Treaty of *Travendale* to *Sweden*; but it never obliged it ſelf to Guarantee to that Crown, the Provinces and Towns Situated on the Sea of *Finland*. The Crown of *England* has no manner of Intereſt therein, except it be in regard to the Trade of the Britiſh Nation, and in that reſpect his Czariſh Majeſty has been willing, to give that Nation perfect ſecurity by a Treaty of Commerce. Beſides, His *Majeſty would abate the Subjects of* Great Britain, *one half of all the Duties they paid to the* Swedes, *in thoſe places*, when they were in poſſeſſion of 'em; and this *only to favour the Trade of the Engliſh:* and to give proofs of the deſire he had to increaſe more, and more his Friendſhip to *Great Britain*, he *would even give the* Engliſh *Liberty to have Warehouſes in thoſe places to keep their goods, and to ſell 'em there freely, which they were not Suffered to do, while that Country was under the Crown of* Sweden.

The *Engliſh* Miniſtry were not always of that opinion, they would at preſent appear to be of in the Anſwer to the Memorial of the Reſident, my Predeceſſor; wherein it is pretended, that the Crown

of *England*, would not enter into any Engagement that might draw it into a Rupture with *Sweden*.

It has been already ſhewn, that your Majeſty made the firſt Propoſals for a Treaty of Defenſive, Alliance and Guarantee: and by the Preamble *

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* *The Preamble of the project of Alliance propoſed by the Britiſh Miniſters in* 1716, *contains what follows, viz.*

" Whereas it is manifeſt that the Northern War occaſions " great prejudice to all Europe, and particularly to the Sub- " jects of *Great Britain*, in their Trade, which has obliged his " Britannick Majeſty, very often to demand Satisfaction of " the King of *Sweden*, for the Damages his Subjects have ſuf- " fered by the taking, and confiſcating their Ships and goods " in the *Baltick*: and whereas his Britannick Majeſty could " never obtain from the King of *Sweden*, a Satisfactory an- " ſwer thereupon, and that on the contrary he has received " Advice that that Prince had anew confirm'd his Orders, " for taking the *Engliſh Ships* that go into the *Baltick* for " Trade; beſides that he has taken other meaſures prejudicial " to *Great Britain*, his Britannick Majeſty to hinder the Exe- " cution of thoſe evil deſigns, and to protect the Trade of his " Subjects in the *Baltick*, finds himſelf obliged to ſend into the " ſaid Sea a Squadron of Ships, who are to make repriſals on " the Ships belonging to the King of *Sweden*, or his Subjects, " and to hinder that Prince from Tranſporting any of his " Troops into *Germany*, or to any other Countries that are un- " der the Dominions of any of the Northern Allies, which " might be the occaſion of re-kindling the War, for extinguiſh- " ing the Flames whereof proper meaſures are taking for the " Advantage, and quiet of all Europe. But to ſhew how de- " ſirous his Britannick Majeſty is to put a ſpeedy end to the " Northern War, he will not fail in the mean time to uſe his " utmoſt endeavours, with the King of *Sweden*, to induce him " to make Peace upon ſuch a foundation, as the preſent poſ- " ture of Affairs will permit, and to engage him to give the " Subjects of *Great Britain* a Reaſonable Satisfaction, and make " him Suitable Amends, and to reſtore freedom of Commerce " in the *Baltick*.

" But whereas his Britannick Majeſty is firmly perſuaded, " that the beſt means to obtain theſe juſt intentions, is to join " in this Affair with other powers who are moſt able, and " beſt inclined to concur therein, for which Reaſon he has " thought fit to agree with his Czariſh Majeſty, &c.

and

and the 5th Article * of the project of that Treaty, which was drawn up by the Britiſh Miniſters themſelves, it is evident, that they either did not then take ſuch great care, or had Reaſon to do it, to avoid a Rupture with *Sweden*.

His Britannick Majeſty, in the other Articles of this Project, of a Defenſive Alliance demands, that his Czariſh Majeſty ſhould Guarantee him the Succeſſion eſtabliſh'd in the Proteſtant Line, and aſſiſt him in caſe of need with 10,000 Men, and deliver that body of Auxiliary Troops at *Lubeck*, all at his own Expences.

It was but juſt that in return of an Engagement ſo expenſive to his Czariſh Majeſty the Court of *Great Britain* on their part ſhould Guarantee to him his Antient Provinces, which he had re-conquer'd from *Sweden*, who had uſurp'd 'em in conjunctures unhappy for the *Ruſſian* Monarchy.

'Tis likewiſe reaſonable that your Majeſty ſhould Guarantee theſe new conqueſts to his Czariſh Majeſty, to indemnify him from the charges of the War, which nothing but the Obſtinacy of the *Swedes* had kept up ſo long: nothing was better founded than this demand of his Czariſh Majeſty, ſince the deſign of this projected Alliance, was chiefly againſt *Sweden*.

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* *The 5th Article of the abovementioned Project.*

" In caſe his Britannick Majeſty or his Succeſſors ſhould be " attack'd, or diſturbed in their Dominions, or Rights on " account of their Succeſſion, eſtabliſhed by the Laws of *Great* " *Britain*, in the Proteſtant Line, or for any other Reaſon " whatſoever, his Czariſh Majeſty hereby obliges himſelf, and " his Succeſſors to aſſiſt them at his own expences, (two " Months after he hath been ſo required to do it) with 5, 6, " 8, or 10,000 Foot, who are to ſerve wherever his Britan- " nick Majeſty ſhall deſire, and his Czariſh Majeſty is to ſend " that body of Troops under the Command of ſome of his " Major-Generals, &c.

If

If the *Engliſh* Miniſtry think fit, *now* to alledge, that *Great Britain* might by this Engagement, have drawn upon it ſelf ſeveral powers; what has been ſaid already, ſhews that all thoſe Apprehenſions did not reſtrain them then, as really there was no Reaſon they ſhould.

Beſides your Majeſty, had not only already, as Elector of *Brunſwick Lunenburg*, Guaranteed to his Czariſh Majeſty by a formal Treaty *all his Conqueſts, except Livonia*, but had obliged your ſelf further as *King of Great Britain*, to ſecond, and ſupport the Intereſts and deſigns of his Czariſh Majeſty.

The 5th Article of this Treaty is ſo clear, that it needs no Explanation *.

Did not the foundation of this Treaty authorize his Czariſh Majeſty to demand that, in Exchange of the Guarantee of the *Britiſh* Succeſſion, his Conqueſts ſhould be alſo Guaranteed to him? Nor truly does their appear any thing extraordinary in this pretenſion, except your Majeſty intended to employ Force to oppoſe thoſe very things, you are engaged by Solemn Treaties to maintain, ſome as King of *England*, and others as Elector of *Brunſwick Lunenburg*.

This is what no body can believe or imagine, ſince ſuch a Conduct would have conſequences ſo contradictory and abſurd, that it would be impoſſible to reconcile 'em.

'Twas in *October* 1715, that the Treaty of *Gryp-ſwalde* was concluded with your Majeſty as King and Elector; and it was in the beginning of the Year 1716, that the Britiſh Miniſters communicated to Prince *Kourakin* his Czariſh Majeſties Embaſſador Extraordinary, this Project of a Treaty of Alliance and Guarantee, and at that time was it, when (as is

* *Article* 5th—"His Britannick Majeſty as King of *Great* "*Britain*, ſhall favour the Intereſt, and ſupport the deſigns of "his Czariſh Majeſty, as much as poſſible upon *All Occaſions*.

ſaid

ſaid in the *Engliſh* Miniſtry's Anſwer) the King, and Crown of *Great Britain* had ſo many Reaſons of Conſcience, and ſtate that would not allow 'em to contribute towards pulling down the King of *Sweden*, their Antient Ally, in order to keep the Ballance equal in *Europe*, and maintain the Proteſtant Religion.

The *Britiſh* Miniſters, among other Reaſons, for breaking off the Negotiations, about the Project of the Treaty of Defenſive Alliance, alledge this, viz. That his Czariſh Majeſty deſigned; by the Propoſed Treaty of Commerce to deprive the Subjects of *Great Britain*, of the Privilege (they pretend to have been granted 'em by his Czariſh Majeſties predeceſſors of Glorious Memory) of Trading to *Caſan*, and *Aſtracan*.

There is not an *Engliſhman*, who Trades to *Ruſſia*, but muſt be obliged to own, that the *Engliſh* never enjoy'd that pretended Privilege, which they know cannot be granted them, *without entirely* ruining his Czariſh Majeſties own Subjects, who Traffick in thoſe Places. The *Engliſh* have been always ſo convinced of this, that they never ſo much as asked for it: But there is great Probability, that thoſe who thought fit to ſtart *this new Pretenſion, did it becauſe they did not deſire, that this Treaty of Commerce ſo favourable, and Advantagious to the Britiſh Nation ſhould be concluded.*

Beſides, the great Advantages, which by this Treaty, would have accrued to the *Engliſh* Subjects, Trading in the conquered Towns of his Czariſh Majeſty, he was willing to give ſtill further proofs, of his Affection to the Crown of *Great Britain*, and of the deſire he had to increaſe the good underſtanding, and to Unite more cloſely, the good Correſpondence between the two Monarchies, in favouring more particularly that Nation, and of *releaſing 'em by this Treaty, of the Duty* which the *Engliſh* Merchants are obliged to pay, *of Ten Pence* per Cent *in ſpecie*, for carrying their Merchandize to *Moſcow*, and other

Towns,

Towns, and *another Duty of Sixpence* likewiſe for the Sale of 'em in thoſe places.

Beſides all this, his Czariſh Majeſty deſign'd *to eaſe 'em of the Duties, called Laſt-Geld*, and to give 'em liberty to Travel, and Traffick in all Countries of his Dominions, except only in the Provinces of *Caſan* and *Aſtracan*. In ſhort this Treaty of Commerce would have been in all reſpects, *ſo Advantagious to the Britiſh Nation, that it is impoſſible to conceive, why your Majeſties Miniſtry, ſhould reſolve to interrupt the Negotiation, and deprive your Subjects thereof*, if one was not obliged to impute this refuſal to the Affair of *Mecklenburg*, which happened at that time, and put an end at once to thoſe Views, which might have proved ſo Advantagious to both Monarchies. All the world is Witneſs thereof, and have ſeen with great Aſtoniſhment, that a private Animoſity has prevailed over the Publick good, and the Common Intereſts of the two Crowns.

It has been already mentioned, how his Czariſh Majeſty ſaw to his great Grief, that the family Union, which made the Duke of *Mecklenburg* his Relation, and the Intereſts of the Nobility of that Country, had changed into coldneſs, and almoſt into open Enmity againſt his Czariſh Majeſty, the friendſhip which had laſted till then between 'em. For *the Britiſh Miniſters*, immediately every where, and at all Courts, *Seconded the ill deſigns, which your Majeſties* German *Miniſters had form'd againſt his Czariſh* Majeſty. They did this ſo openly, that a declared Enemy could not have done it, with leſs Reſerve, and they could give no other Reaſons for it; but the Inoffenſive continuance of the *Ruſſian* Troops in *Mecklenburg*. In a word, this Affair of *Mecklenburg, which did not in the leaſt concern Great Britain*, was carry'd by your Majeſties Miniſters to all the extremities, which have been already related at large in the laſt Memorial of my Predeceſſor.

His

His Czariſh Majeſty will not determine, whether all this be done without or with the knowledge of your Majeſty; but it's publickly known, that the Court of *Denmark* was deſired to join their Fleet with the *Britiſh*, to hinder by open force the *Ruſſian* Troops (which were already embark'd, and had been detained for Several Weeks, by contrary Winds at *Copenhagen*) from going to *Mecklenburg*; and cauſe 'em to be tranſported to *Ruſſia*. All which tended directly to the ſacrificing of the Troops, and the Intereſts of the Nobility of *Mecklenberg*, for being embarked on ſmall Veſſels, that were in a bad Condition, and unable to endure ſo long a Paſſage, they could not fail of periſhing at Sea, either by Storms, and bad Weather, or by Hunger, or in ſhort, of being attack'd, and deſtroy'd by the united Fleets.

This deſign had been executed, if Admiral *Norris* would have come into it, and have obey'd the private Orders, which your Majeſties Miniſter ſent him for that purpoſe: But *that Admiral refuſed to execute the Orders, of the* Hanoverian *Lieutenant-General* Bothmar, with whom he had high words about it, at a publick Entertainment, at which they were both preſent at Lord *Pollwarths*, the Britiſh Envoy at the Court of *Denmark*. Where the Admiral told the General openly: "*That being Admiral of* Great "Britain, *he could not do it* merely to favour the "Intereſts of *Hanover*, or the Nobility of *Mecklen-*"*burg*, to the Prejudice of the Intereſts of *England*; "for if he did, he could never Juſtify himſelf be-"fore the *Parliament*.

The other Reflections, and Malicious inſinuations contained in the Anſwer of the *Britiſh* Miniſtry, concerning his Czariſh Majeſties deſigns, which have been ſo extremely miſinterpreted, are ſo indecent, and odious in their nature, that his Czariſh Majeſty, is highly ſurprized that they durſt ſo much as mention 'em.

Would any one give himſelf the trouble, of conſidering the great diſtance between the Dominions of *Ruſſia* and *Copenhagen*, (whither no ſuccours can be ſent but by Sea, for which the *Ruſſian* Fleet was not in a condition of ſerving,) and that by making himſelf Maſter of *Copenhagen*, and the Dominions of the Sound, his Czariſh Majeſty would have drawn on himſelf ſeveral mighty Powers, that would have taken umbrage at it; I ſay, if any body will make but the leaſt Reflection on all theſe Obſtacles, and call to mind the Fidelity and Integrity with which his Czariſh Majeſty is uſed to deal with his Allies, he may eaſily conclude, that ſuch a deſign could never come into his thoughts. His Troops were always in Quarters, diſtant from one another, all the time he was at *Copenhagen*, whilſt the *Daniſh* Troops were united under that Town in the ſame Camp; and tho' his Czariſh Majeſty was ſenſible, that ſome perſons inſpired the King of *Denmark* with Diſtruſts, and Jealouſies, which even made ſome impreſſion on him, yet he ſtill continued to put the ſame Confidence in his *Daniſh* Majeſty, that he had always done, continuing at *Copenhagen* with her Majeſty, the Czarina till her Departure, and conſequently all the time in the power of the King of *Denmark*.

Admiral *Norris* had therefore no Reaſon or Cauſe to oppoſe with his Fleet, a deſign that was never form'd; and never could be forged, but in the imagination of the Authors of all thoſe *Chimæra*'s.

As it is impoſſible, but the *Engliſh* Miniſters muſt know the little grounds there are for their reproaches, concerning the Negotiation which they ſuppoſe to have been on foot with the Pretender, his Czariſh Majeſty cannot imagine why they again make uſe of 'em in their Anſwer, after the Abſurdity thereof, has been ſo often ſhewn by unqueſtionable proofs.

The Letters of Baron *Gortz*, and Count *Gyllenborg publiſh*'d in the Year 1717, ſhew that your Majeſty

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even before that time ſued for a Separate Peace with *Sweden*, and the Extract * here ſet down of one of Count *Gyllenborge*'s Letters ſhews the ill deſign, which the *Engliſh* Miniſtry had then already conceiv'd againſt his Czariſh Majeſty.

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* *Count* Gyllenborg's *Letter to Baron* Gortz. London Nov. 4th. 1716.

" *Sir*, In anſwer to what your Excellency has done me, the " honour to write to me in the Poſtcript to the Letter of the " 16-17 paſt, I grant there would be no harm in hearing the " inſinuations of this Court, if they were made not only with- " out my promiſing to make report of 'em to his Majeſty, but " alſo my giving 'em hopes of his Majeſties reſolution, to be " reconciled to the *Hanoverians*, and to ſacrifice *Bremen* to " 'em for ſome Equivalent on the part of the Czar. But as " without that they will make no Overtures, for fear we ſhould " make uſe of 'em, to encreaſe ſtill more the Diſtruſt, which " is between the Northern Allies, and ſo make an Advantage " of 'em, it is not in my power to get any thing particular out " of them, nor am I able to ſay of what ſervice to us their aſ- " ſiſtance againſt the Czar would be; but if I were to gueſs " by their diſcourſe, who have been talking with me about it " as from themſelves, tho' I eaſily perceived it was by order " of the Miniſters, I ſhould believe that if the Preliminary " concerning *Bremen* was ſettled, the *Engliſh* Miniſters would " be very well pleaſed to repair the falſe ſtep they have made; " by talking loudly of the Defenſive Treaty between us, and " perſuading the Nation to give us the Succour therein ſtipu- " lated, either in Money or Ships. I ſhould fancy alſo, that " we might come to an Agreement in relation to what they " ought to help us to take from the Czar; by way of Reprizal " for our loſſes in *Germany*. On the other hand, and if we " don't Submit to them, your Excellency may be aſſured, that " as well to juſtify their paſt Actions, as to force us to a com- " pliance, they will prevail on the *Mercenary Parliament*, which " they have at preſent, to take vigorous Reſolutions, and even " to declare War againſt us. This is what we muſt expect, the " *Engliſh* Miniſters do not mince the matter, and they have " already made it appear, that they will ſtick at nothing. " They are all *Furious* Perſons: *Sunderland*, who is as it were " at the Head of Affairs, and who has got all the Intereſt he " has with the King of *England*, by having conſented to what " has been done againſt us, (being beſides our Enemy) is at " preſent at *Hanover*, to receive *his Leſſon* from the *Germans*, " and your Excellency may gueſs, he will Execute them with " all the *Impudence* imaginable.

But all that was laid to his Czariſh Majeſties charge in thoſe Letters, has been ſo ſufficiently confuted in the Memorial, which my Predeceſſor preſented upon that occaſion to your Majeſty that the whole world has been forced to own that thoſe imputations were falſe, and that his Czariſh Majeſty has never deviated in the leaſt from his uſual Candour and Integrity.

He has declared that he look'd upon 'em as malicious Aſperſions, and an outragious injury, and he has deſired you, Sir, to communicate to him ſome clear proofs of that pretended Negotiation, if there were any; for it is inconſiſtent with common Decency, and Juſtice to lay to his charge what the Miniſters of an Enemy impute to him, or what the Pretender's Adherents may think fit to Publiſh, perhaps to ſtrengthen their Party: It ought to have been proved by ſome Authentick pieces, that his Czariſh Majeſty had enter'd into any Negotiation, or any Engagement to that purpoſe.

But it is needleſs to recount that Affair in order to refute ſuch ill grounded Reproaches; all the World has ſeen the Injuſtice thereof, and the great Probability there is, that they have been invented, and brought upon the Stage again, only with a deſign to Interrupt the good Underſtanding, and Friendſhip that has laſted ſo many Years between the two Crowns and Nations of *Ruſſia* and *Britain*, to the great benefit which has accrued from thence to your Majeſties Subjects in their Commerce; theſe Reproaches, it may be, were only revived to give ſome Colour, and to Cover by this Pretence, the ill offices, which were already intended to be done to his Czariſh Majeſty, who never deſerv'd 'em.

His Czariſh Majeſty never gave his Protection, to any Rebels to the Crown of *Great Britain*, as is alledg'd in the Anſwer, and hitherto none have preſented themſelves to ask it.

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The *Britiſh* Miniſtry might have given ſome Air of Probability to that Accuſation, if after having reclaimed any one Perſon, Protection had been given him notwithſtanding their Complaint. All ſorts of People, and of all Nations, go and come into his Czariſh Majeſties Dominions, as they do in *England*, and in other Countries, and his Majeſty does not think himſelf anſwerable for every *Engliſhman* that comes into his Dominions, or that ſtays there for ſome time; or obliged to examine, whether he is of the Pretenders Party or no.

Nor are there better grounds for what is alledged in the Anſwer, that the Subjects of *Great Britain* have been ill uſed in his Czariſh Majeſties Dominions, that *Engliſh* Sailors have been forced into his ſervice, that Artificers have been denied Liberty of returning into their own Country, that Merchants have been put under Arreſt without any cauſe, and that Ships have been Seized and Confiſcated unjuſtly. Theſe Reproaches are as ill founded as the former.

His Czariſh Majeſty never was informed, that any of your Majeſties Subjects had received any ill Treatment in *Ruſſia*; no body ever made any Complaints to him; and if any one thinks himſelf injured in any point, the way of Juſtice is there open equally to all Men, and ſpeedy Juſtice is Adminiſtred accordingly.

But if a Merchant does not pay the Cuſtoms, or if he engages himſelf to deliver Goods, and does not perform his Contract; if he does not ſtand to his Engagements, for which he has receiv'd Money; or, in ſhort, if there is any other Action againſt him; in ſuch a caſe your Majeſties Miniſter muſt not take it ill, that ſuch ſort of Perſons are proceeded againſt according to Law, in the ſame manner as is practiſed in *England*, and every where elſe.

Thoſe that have enter'd into his Czariſh Majeſty's Service did it voluntarily, and they live there as a free People, according to the Agreement they have made:

made: No body is kept by force, or againſt his Will, when the Time of his Engagement is elaps'd; but to ſend them away before that time, or to diſcharge them againſt their Will, would be acting againſt common Uſage; there is no ſuch Cuſtom, and their good Services have deſerv'd of his Czariſh Majeſty that he ſhould deal well by them.

As for the *Engliſh* Ships, his Czariſh Majeſties Admiralty has ſeiz'd none; for it cannot be ſuppoſed that your Majeſty reckons among the Ships of your Subjects ſome *Loorendracers*, that have navigated with *Engliſh* Paſſports, (tho' the Ships and Cargoes belonged to the *Swedes*) and that carried to his Czariſh Majeſties Enemies, Ammunition and all ſorts of Proviſions, whereof they were in want, contrary to the expreſs Prohibition made with the Conſent of Parliament in *England*, againſt Trade or Commerce in *Sweden*. No Subject of *Great Britain* has as yet appear'd at his Czariſh Majeſties Admiralty, to complain of any unjuſt Confiſcation of their Ships. Every body can apply himſelf there in a proper manner, and may expect to have ſpeedy Juſtice done him.

So much has been ſaid already, in anſwer to what relates to the Conferences at *Aland*, and the Projects that have been publiſhed of that Meeting, (which it is pretended were found with Baron *Gortz*) that 'tis beſt to forbear repeating any more of it. The Baron therein was ſo far from making the leaſt Overture, for an Invaſion of *Scotland*, that it is even very probable, for ſeveral Reaſons, that he never ſo much as thought of the Execution of ſo vaſt an Enterprize.

But whatever Baron *Gortz*'s Notions and Projects were, that does not concern his Czariſh Majeſty, who not only was never engaged in ſuch a ſort of Chimæra, as the pretended project of an Invaſion of *Scotland*, but not even in any other Affair whatſoever, that was contrary to his Alliances and Treaties, whatever advantagious Offers were made him; and

tho'

tho' his Czariſh Majeſty knew, that ſome of his Allies had, at that time, offered to *Sweden*, to enter into an Engagement with that Crown, contrary to the Intereſts of *Ruſſia*. And as this is an unqueſtionable Truth, the contrary whereof the *Engliſh* Miniſtry are not able to prove, it by no means became them to impute ſuch things to his Czariſh Majeſty, without producing clear and unexceptionable Proofs thereof.

The Invaſion made by the King of *Sweden* into *Norway* was in the Winter, in a Seaſon when his Czariſh Majeſty could make no manner of Diverſion in *Finland*, when it is impoſſible to act but with Gallies. This Impoſſibility was ſo clearly repreſented to his *Daniſh* Majeſty, by his Czariſh Majeſty's Embaſſador at *Copenhagen*, that his *Daniſh* Majeſty could not but be convinced thereof.

But your Majeſty ought to have furniſh'd him with powerful Succours, on ſo preſſing an occaſion, as you might very well have done with your Fleet, and by tranſporting a good body of Troops. This you was obliged to do by your Alliance; the Opportunity was very favourable; the Power and all Neceſſaries were not wanting, and (what is yet more) your Majeſty had been the firſt and chief occaſion of that Invaſion, in having diſſuaded his *Daniſh* Majeſty by your Offers and great Promiſes, and all kind of means, from agreeing with his Czariſh Majeſty upon the Operations of War againſt the common Enemy. For if that Concert had taken place, the King of *Sweden* would not have had ſo much as time to think of invading *Norway*, and the Northern Peace had been infallibly made to the Satisfaction of all the Allies.

To be convinced, that there was neither a Truce nor Ceſſation of Arms between his Czariſh Majeſty and the King of *Sweden*, nor any private Underſtanding, much leſs, any Agreement in relation to this Invaſion

vaſion of *Norway*, one need only call to mind, that the *Ruſſian* Parties all the Summer long, and during the time of that Invaſion, committed as many Hoſtilities as poſſible, and their Privateers, and Ships of War, did as much damage as they could to the Enemy.

The repeated Propoſals made (as is pretended) by his Czariſh Majeſty to *Spain*, to enter into an offenſive Alliance with that Court againſt your Majeſty, in favour of the Pretender, are as Chimerical as the Negotiations with the Pretender himſelf. For tho' his Czariſh Majeſty might very well have taken offence, at the many ſteps taken by your Majeſty againſt his Intereſts, and after your Majeſty had engaged with other Powers, in Treaties entirely prejudicial to him, after your Majeſty had ſtirr'd up againſt his Czariſh Majeſty, all the Chriſtian Princes you could, and *had even Sollicited the* Turk, *that Hereditary Enemy of the Chriſtian Name*, not only at the Congreſs of Peace between his Imperial Majeſty, and the *Ottoman* Port; but ſome time after at *Conſtantinople*, by your Miniſters, who Suggeſted all kind of means, to perſuade the Grand Seignior to break with his Czariſh Majeſty: As the *Turkiſh* Miniſters themſelves owned, with all the Circumſtances thereof to the *Ruſſian* Envoy, that reſides at their Court.

Tho' I ſay, all thoſe underhand dealings might have induced his Czariſh Majeſty, as well for his Security as Revenge, to make ſome Alliances with other Powers, for which no body certainly could have blamed him; yet he has not done it, much leſs has he had any Intention to make an offenſive Alliance with *Spain* againſt your Majeſty. The great diſtance between *Ruſſia* and *Spain*, and remoteneſs of the two Monarchies from each other, ſhew clearly, that ſuch an Alliance could be of no Advantage, and never came into his Czariſh Majeſties thoughts.

Nay,

Nay, ſuppoſing there had been ſome Propoſals made on either the part of *Spain*, or from the Pretender, to his Czariſh Majeſty, he as an Abſolute Prince might hear 'em according to the Laws of Nature, and Cuſtom as well as the Rules of Decency, and Convenience, which do not allow the rejecting of Propoſals without hearing 'em.

But it is Sufficient, that no body can prove, that his Czariſh Majeſty, ever enter'd into any Engagements, either with *Spain* or the Pretender, or ever really made any Propoſals to them againſt your Majeſty, or even that there ever were any projects to that purpoſe.

As for the reſt, his Majeſty has no manner of concern in the *Spaniſh* War, and as to the *Ruſſian* Miniſters, having had any Communication with thoſe of that Crown, it is what no body ſurely can make any Objection to; for it is incredible, that the *Britiſh* Miniſters can pretend his Czariſh Majeſty ſhould have no manner of Correſpondence with *Spain*, or that the *Ruſſian* Miniſters ſhould not keep company with thoſe of his Catholick Majeſty, only becauſe your Majeſty has thought fit to declare War againſt *Spain*, eſpecially ſince the Correſpondence, between 'em tended not at all to the Prejudice of your Majeſty.

As for what happen'd in *Holland*, in relation to Admiral *Norris*'s Commiſſion, and that of your Majeſties Miniſter Plenipotentiary Mr. *Whitworth*: That Affair has been related at large, according to the exacteſt truth in the Memorial of my Predeceſſor.

His Czariſh Majeſty had great Reaſon to hope, that thoſe two Miniſters, would have been ſent to him Furniſhed with Sufficient orders, and full Powers to determine all Differences between the two Courts, to reſtore upon ſolid Foundations the Sincere Friendſhip, and good underſtanding that had been changed, and to agree on means to obtain a General Peace in the *North*, ſince your Majeſties Miniſters as well in *England*, as elſewhere did themſelves give hopes thereof and aſſurances, that the Commiſſions of Admiral *Norris*, and the Plenipotentiary *Whitworth* tended to that End. But they were ſcarce arrived at the Court of his Czariſh Majeſty, when the little inclination your Majeſty had to reſtore the good underſtanding, ſo Advantagious and neceſſary for the good of the two Monarchies, ſhew'd it ſelf plainly; for they declared immediately, that they had no Propoſals to make to his Czariſh Majeſty,

contenting themſelves with receiving ſuch as ſhould be made to them, on the part of his Majeſty, to make their Report thereof. And they went away again immediately.

It is true, they delivered in writing, and declared by Word of Mouth, that your Majeſty was ſending forthwith a Miniſter to his Czariſh Majeſty, to reſide with him, who ſhould be provided with ſufficient Orders, and full Powers to treat, and to terminate, to the Satisfaction of both Courts, the Affairs that were to be regulated between them.

Theſe Promiſes have been often repeated ſince by the *Engliſh* Miniſters, and indeed there was then a Report ſpread, that Admiral *Norris*, and the Reſident *Jefferies*, were actually appointed to go to his Czariſh Majeſties Court; but the Reſident *Jefferies* went thither alone, and that a long time after, for he did not arrive there till the beginning of the Year 1719.

After the many Proteſtations made by your Majeſties Miniſters, as well by word of mouth as in writing, might not one have flattered ones ſelf, that they would not be without ſome Effect, and that the Reſident *Jefferies* was come to the Court of his Czariſh Majeſty, with the neceſſary Inſtructions and full Powers to terminate all matters? and yet inſtead of bringing any thing deciſive, on the part of your Majeſty, for the reſtoring a good Harmony, and renewing the Friendſhip more cloſely, he deſired that Propoſals might be made to him, from his Czariſh Majeſty, who then very plainly ſaw, that the Hopes he had conceived of the ſucceſs of that Negotation were ill grounded.

In the mean time, to omit nothing on his part that might facilitate that Succeſs, his Czariſh Majeſty cauſed his firſt Propoſals to be communicated again to him; but no Anſwer was made to them.

The Reaſon why all thoſe Advances of his Czariſh Majeſty were without Succeſs, cannot be that which is alledged in the Anſwer, ſince the defenſive Alliance, which was the matter in queſtion, had been propoſed to his Czariſh Majeſties Embaſſador, by the *Britiſh* Miniſters themſelves; and as to what relates to the Condition, That the *Britiſh* Squadron (which was to be employed to ſuccour his Czariſh Majeſty) was to be at his diſpo-

ſal,

ſal, it was but natural and very reaſonable; for if the Troops which his Czariſh Majeſty was to oblige himſelf to ſend to your Majeſties Aſſiſtance, were to be under the Command of your Majeſties Generals, it was but juſt to ſtipulate the ſame thing, in reſpect of the auxiliary Ships, which his Czariſh Majeſty was to receive from your Majeſty. How could his Czariſh Majeſty otherwiſe rely upon thoſe Succours, if the Commander of them were not under his Orders to act as the common good required, to force the Enemy the ſooner to agree to a general Peace? It appears therefore, that it was not the propoſing of a defenſive Alliance which occaſioned the breaking off the Negotiation, but that there were quite other Reaſons, and particularly that of a *Deſign to make a ſeparate Peace.*

All theſe Steps of your Majeſty, and your Miniſtry, make all the World believe, that you never had a ſincere Intention to re-eſtabliſh a firm Friendſhip between the two Crowns; and that Admiral *Norris* and the Miniſter Plenipotentiary, *Whitworth*, were ſent to *Amſterdam*, and the Reſident *Jefferies* to *Petersburg*, only for the better covering of the ſecret Negotiations, which your Majeſty was carrying on for a ſeparate Peace with *Sweden*, and to gain the Time that was neceſſary to finiſh them, as well as to make the publick believe, that your Majeſty was diſpoſed to keep up a good Friendſhip with the Crown of *Great Ruſſia.*

There is no occaſion to produce more Proofs hereof, ſince it has appeared plainly by the ſeparate Peace, which your Majeſty has made with *Sweden*, directly contrary to the Treaties of Alliance in force between you and his Czariſh Majeſty. And as the Crown of *Sweden* would not immediately yield up to the Electoral Houſe of *Brunſwick Lunenburg* two ſo conſiderable Provinces as *Bremen* and *Verden*, without a ſufficient Recompence, your Majeſty, as King of *Great Britain*, has made an Alliance with *Sweden*, and entered into Engagements with that Crown, directly in Oppoſition to his Czariſh Majeſty, forgetting that you obtain'd the Ceſſion of thoſe Provinces from the King of *Denmark*, only thro' the interpoſition of his Czariſh Majeſty, and his ſtrong Sollicitations. Your Majeſty has already begun laſt Summer really to diſcharge thoſe Obligations, by

joining the *Britiſh* Fleet with the *Swediſh*, as is ſtill continued *at the Expence of the* Britiſh *Nation, an Expence that is conſiderable.*

'Twas neceſſary, with ſome Pretence, to cover a ſtep ſo extraordinary, and contrary to ſo many Treaties and Alliances; for which end, uſe is made of all thoſe Reproaches contained in the two Anſwers, to induce *England* to believe that your Majeſty had reaſon to deal after this manner with his Czariſh Majeſty, as if that Nation could forget the eſſential and important Intereſt it is to them, to preſerve the Friendſhip that ought to ſubſiſt between the two Crowns for the Advantage of its Trade in *Ruſſia*, which is none of the leaſt Branches of that of *Great Britain*.

We have ſeen evidently, during the Time, and at the latter End of the laſt Campaign, that the Advices which his Majeſty receiv'd laſt Summer were well grounded, *viz.* That the *Britiſh* Squadron, which was then on the Point of being ſent to the *Baltick*, under the Command of Admiral *Norris*, was intended to ſuccour *Sweden*, and to fall, without any Warning, on his Czariſh Majeſties Fleet, in hopes of ſurprizing and deſtroying it, as that of *Spain* had been ſerv'd: And it has been ſufficiently prov'd, in my Predeceſſor's Memorial, why his Czariſh Majeſty thought fit to write to Admiral *Norris*, as he actually did, to deſire of him an Explanation of the Orders he was charged with.

His Czariſh Majeſties Letter has been printed and publiſhed; the *Britiſh* Miniſters pretend that it is written in an imperious and threatening Stile, and in ſuch Terms, as the Crown of *Great Britain* is not uſed to: But no body, except they alone, has found therein thoſe imperious and threatening Expreſſions which they complain of: On the contrary it has been acknowledged, that his Czariſh Majeſty in taking thoſe ſteps, has acted with all the Integrity imaginable; and that his Czarſh Majeſty was obliged to act in that manner to provide againſt Surprize, and avoid all Opportunities of new Diſputes with the Crown of *Great Britain*.

His Czariſh Majeſty may ſay, with far more Grounds and Reaſon, that he is not uſed to ſuch Expreſſions as are contained in the Letters which the Lord *Carteret* and Admiral *Norris* have wrote to him. The Lord *Carteret*,

teret, who was not only without any Credentials to his Czariſh Majeſty, but who even reſided with his Enemy, has offer'd your Majeſties Mediation, whilſt you had a Miniſter with his Czariſh Majeſty; and Admiral *Norris*, at the ſame time that he offers your Mediation, declares that he has joined the Fleet he commands with that of the Enemy: and both the Lord *Carteret*, and Sir *John Norris*, accompany their offers of Mediation, with Terms ſo imperious, haughty and threatning as even Soveraign Princes themſelves never uſe to one another, much leſs, does it become Miniſters, or private Perſons, to uſe 'em in the Letters they writ to a Monarch, and Soveraign Prince, ſo that their conduct in this reſpect, has been condemn'd by all Men of Honour in general, and indeed *it agrees ſo little* with the Reſpect due to his Czariſh Majeſty, *and with the Decorum, that Princes even engaged in open War againſt one another, uſually obſerve*, that his Czariſh Majeſty never imagined, that your Majeſty could owne, and approve their Proceedings.

Would your Majeſty have ſeriouſly offered your Mediation, his Czariſh Majeſty does not ſee any Reaſon, why your Majeſty might not have thought it fitter to do it directly by a Letter, or by your Miniſter, who was then at the Court of his Czariſh Majeſty, inſtead of uſing ſuch Extraordinary ways as were never heard of till that time.

To offer a Mediation and at the ſame time to threaten, are things contradictory and incompatible: To offer a Mediation to reconcile a Prince with his Enemy, and for the Perſon who offers the Mediation, to Declare at the ſame time, that he has made an Alliance with that Enemy, is giving to underſtand without any diſguiſe: *That ſuch a Mediation is not offered with a deſign of procuring the Reconcilation; but for a Pretence to Quarrel* and *come to a Rupture.*

The Concluſion of the Anſwer of the *Britiſh* Miniſtry, ſhews plainly enough, that your Majeſty will not be a *Mediator*, but *Arbitrator*, *and preſcribe Laws*, and that your *Majeſties Miniſters are of Opinion, that his Czariſh Majeſty ought to Submit without any Contradiction to thoſe Laws, they think fit to preſcribe to him.*

'Tis left to the Diſintereſted Publick to Judge, whether this Opinion of the *Britiſh* Miniſters, and

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their Expreſſions are Juſt and proper, ſo that his Czariſh Majeſty ſhould give any Attention to 'em: his Czariſh Majeſty depends on God alone from whom he holds his Sacred Dignity, his Power and his Strength.

His Majeſty is perſuaded, that none can believe he has deſerv'd from your Majeſty either as King of *Great Britain*, or Elector, a Treatment ſo unfriendly and unuſual among Chriſtian Princes. He has a formal Alliance with your Majeſty, as Elector, and as his Czariſh Majeſties word is inviolable and his fidelity Conſtant, above all things in his Alliances, he has on his part adhered to them, and kept his faith (eſpecially in reſpect to this Alliance) without any Alteration, and he has in Conſequence thereof procured to your Majeſty *Bremen* and *Verden*, and has entirely ſatisfy'd all his Engagements without any Reſerve, and with the utmoſt Exactneſs.

Nor has his Czariſh Majeſty deſerved, that your Majeſty ſhould uſe him as you have done, as King of *England*, ſince no body could give greater proofs of his Conſideration, Eſteem and particular Friendſhip for your Majeſties Perſon, than he has done, ever ſince your Acceſſion to the Crown till this very time. With what eagerneſs has his Majeſty ſought the means, not only to preſerve a good Union with your Majeſty; but even to rivet the joints thereof with the ſtrongeſt Engagements, and render it Eternal if poſſible? Has he not on his part ſhewn all the Diſpoſitions imaginable, when your Majeſty made any Propoſals for that purpoſe? and with what Readineſs, did he offer to enter into the Treaty of Guarantee of the *Britiſh* Succeſſion, that was propoſed to him by your Majeſty.

His Czariſh Majeſty has always endeavour'd to keep up between the two Crowns, the good Friendſhip that has laſted ſo very long, and confirm it by new and ſtronger Alliances: and to ſhew the Sincerity of his good Intentions, he has moreover *offered to give the Britiſh Nation by a Treaty of Commerce very great, and conſiderable Advantages, even to grant it the preference above all other Nations.*

However, tho' his Czariſh Majeſty has no ways deſerv'd a Treatment like that he has met with, he has yet further felt your Majeſties reſentment in the *Separate Peace made with* Sweden, *in breach of the Formal*

Treaty

Treaty and Alliance with his Czariſh Majeſty, which was ſo Advantagious to your Majeſty: he has likewiſe found by Experiences, that your Majeſty has debauched his Allies from him, and that in Quality of King of *Great Britain*, you have entered openly into an Alliance with *Sweden* againſt his Czariſh Majeſty, without conſidering that the Alliance you are engaged in with his Czariſh Majeſty, obliged your Majeſty likewiſe as King of *England*, to ſecond his Intereſts, and ſupport his deſigns upon all Occaſions.

The Pretences alledg'd on the part of your Majeſty, are of ſuch a Nature, that whoever has the leaſt impartiality may ſee, that they are invented and Publiſhed merely to juſtify, if poſſible, to the Publick, and to the *Britiſh* Nation, a Proceeding ſo Extraordinary.

To abandon ones Allies, and join in a League with the Enemy, againſt an Ally, to whom one has been for many Ages bound in a Conſtant, and inviolable Friendſhip, in Vrtue of which one has enjoy'd Peacably ſuch great Advantages, and made ſuch conſiderable Profit, and then to embroil 'em in an open Rupture among themſelves is, a *thing inexcuſable before God and Man.*

Your Majeſties Miniſters alledge, that *Great Britain* has never taken any part in the preſent Northern War. *That Crown has no manner of Intereſt in relation to* Bremen *and* Verden. Thoſe Provinces ought to be left to *Sweden*, in Virtue of the *Treaty of* Weſtphalia, *of which the Crown of* Great Britain *is a Guarantee. Great Britain* has no manner of Reaſon to envy his Czariſh Majeſty his good fortune, 'tis on the contrary for their Common and mutual Intereſt, and for the Intereſt of the *Britiſh* Subjects in Particular, that a good Underſtanding and Friendſhip ſhould always ſubſiſt between the two Monarchies.

There's not the leaſt Advantage can accure to the Crown of *Great Britain*, from a *Rupture with* Ruſſia: No, *Great Britain* can expect nothing but Prodigious loſſes from it.

I ſhall not now take notice, that the ſteps which your Majeſty takes, will undoubtedly make you loſe your juſt pretenſions, to be indemnify'd by *Sweden* for ſo many Hundred Ships, and their Cargoes taken by

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the *Swedes* from the *Engliſh*, and that your Majeſty will be deprived of the juſt Satisfaction, you might expect for it according to Equity and Reaſon.

If all this be done, *only in conſideration of the Ceſſion*, and for the preſervation of *Bremen* and *Verden*, in favour of the Electoral Houſe of *Brunſwick Lunenburg*, it ſeems there has been done, more than was neceſſary, ſince your Majeſty had already obtained your ends, in that reſpect by his Czariſh Majeſty, and their Majeſties the King of *Poland*, *Denmark* and *Pruſſia*, having Guaranteed to you thoſe two Provinces.

And if your Majeſty had thought fit, to keep firm to the Alliance with his Czariſh Majeſty, *Sweden* would have been obliged to conſent to a General Peace, wherein the Expectation of all the Northern Allies had been Anſwered, and the General Tranquillity reſtor'd long ago. So that there was no neceſſity, in order to ſecure *Bremen* and *Verden* to the Electoral Houſe of *Brunſwick Lunenburg*, to make the Crown of *Great Britain* enter into Engagements, that tend only to break the Antient Ties of Friendſhip between it and *Ruſſia*, and carry things to a Rupture.

The good Friendſhip and Correſpondence between *Ruſſia* and *Great Britain*, has always been a Source of great Advantages and conſiderable profits to the Trade of the *Britiſh* Nation. A Rupture cannot but be very Prejudicial to it, and muſt certainly engage it in great expences and occaſion great Loſſes, for War always draws after it ſelf Miſery, Ruin and many other Calamities that are the Conſequences of it.

His Czariſh Majeſty has given no manner of occaſion, for interrupting a Friendſhip that was ſo well eſtabliſhed, and is ſo Advantagious to the two Nations. He has cultivated it with all the Eagerneſs and Application imaginable: and to ſhew his true Affection to the *Britiſh* Nation, he has been ready to *grant 'em*, by *a Treaty* of *Commerce*, *many Advantages which would have yielded 'em immenſe Profits*, *as well in* Ruſſia, *as particularly in the Ports of the* Baltick; *more than the* Engliſh *ever had there when the* Swedes *were in poſſeſſion of 'em.*

His Czariſh Majeſty is ſtill diſpoſed to cultivate on his part that Friendſhip without Interruption. The Declaration he lately made, and the Aſſurances he ordered

ordered to be given to the *Engliſh* Merchants, of the Liberty which he gave them to carry on their Trade in all his Dominions, are manifeſt proofs thereof; and the rather, becauſe he gave theſe Aſſurances at the very time that your Majeſty, and your Miniſtry acted as Enemies to his Czariſh Maieſty; by ſending a Fleet againſt him to the Aſſiſtance of his Enemy, and ſtirring up againſt his Majeſty all Powers whatever, *not excepting the very* Turk.

Should the Crown of *Great Britain* hereafter entertain as friendly ſentiments, and appear as well affected to his Czariſh Majeſty, as his Majeſty is to that Crown, and ſhould offer her Mediation in ſuch a manner as is *Decent*, and uſual among Soveraign Princes, when they are Treating of Affairs, ſo as that manner be not Prejudicial to his Czariſh Majeſties honour; in ſuch caſe his Majeſty will not fail to explain himſelf thereupon in ſuch a way, as is agreeable to the Antient Friendſhip which has Subſiſted ſo long between the two Crowns, and which this may contribute to preſerve.

A Mediator ought to be impartial, and his Czariſh Majeſty is not averſe to an impartial Mediation. He will take care to ſhew effectually, and on all occaſions how much he values your Majeſties Friendſhip, how highly he regards that of the Crown of *England* and the *Britiſh* Nation, and how readily he ſhall always on his part do every thing that can contribute to the inviolable preſervation, and even to a greater increaſe of that Friendſhip, to the Advantage of the *Britiſh* Nation.

Finally, his Czariſh Majeſty has ordered me to teſtify to your Majeſty how concern'd he is to ſee, that when your Majeſty thought fit to Publiſh the ſecond Anſwers, (deliver'd in your Majeſties Name) to the Memorial of my Predeceſſor, they were Printed by the Court Printer with another Paper altogether injurious, filled up with Expreſſions exceed-

ingly indecent, and unprecedented among great Princes, and full of ſlander, written by an Anonymous Scandalous fellow, as far as a Man may judge of it by its ſtile; in ſhort, a true Paſquinade or Defamatory Libel, and his Czariſh Majeſty looks upon it as ſuch.

And as the Integrity of his Czariſh Majeſty's conduct has been ſet in ſo clear a light, in the Memorial which I have the honour to preſent to your Majeſty, that all Men of honour and Diſintereſtedneſs may be convinced thereof, his Czariſh Majeſty does not think that writing worthy of an Anſwer, or that the Calumnies and Lyes contained therein ſhould be refuted. He remits it thither where it is fit to ſend ſuch Paſquinades and Scandalous Libels as attack the Honour and Dignity of a Great Soveraign.

His Czariſh Majeſty has only commanded me, to deſire your Majeſty to give Orders, that for the future, your Majeſties Miniſters may act in relation to his Czariſh Majeſty on the like Occaſions in ſuch a manner, as *is uſual among Civilized Nations*, to act towards great Princes, who have acquired ſo much honour and glory in the World, as his Czariſh Majeſty has. This Decorum has always been obſerv'd on the part of his Czariſh Majeſty, and ſhall ſtill be obſerved for the future, if he is not obliged to act otherwiſe.

London, October 17. 1720. *Signed*

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London, *October* 17. 1720.

Signed

BESTUCHEF.